



# Crop Progress and Condition

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**In Cooperation with:**  
Univ. of KY – Agr'l Weather Center  
U.S. Dept. of Commerce - NOAA  
Kentucky Department of Agriculture  
Cooperative Extension Service

Released: May 26, 2020

Issue: 10-20

**Agricultural News:** Kentucky experienced near normal temperatures and above normal rainfall over the past week. Precipitation for the week totaled 2.16 inches, 1.05 inches above normal. Temperatures averaged 66 degrees for the week, unchanged from normal. **Topsoil moisture** was rated 4 percent short, 60 percent adequate, and 36 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 3 percent short, 65 percent adequate, and 32 percent surplus. Days suitable for fieldwork averaged 3.3 out of a possible seven.

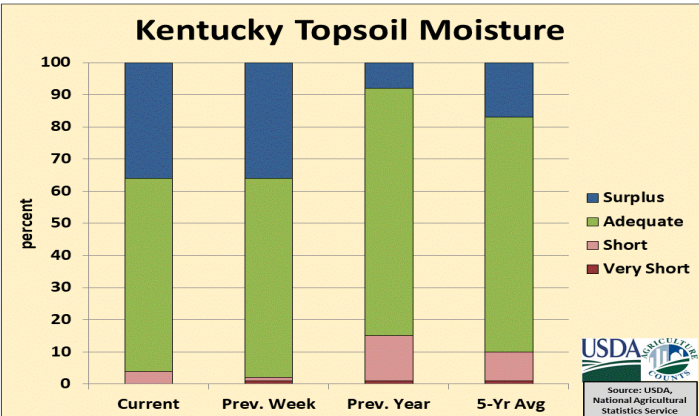
Primary activities for this week included planting of corn and soybeans, setting tobacco, and cutting hay. Farmers continue to make headway with planting, but wet conditions have hampered progress at times over the previous week. Producers need successive days of dry weather to push through with getting crops in the ground. Rainfall was heavy at times and there were reports of flooding and crop damage in areas of the state. Forage is growing well, but the opportunity to cut has been sparse. Soybean planting remains slightly ahead of both last year and the five year average. Corn planting is on par with last year, but behind the five year average as weather conditions have slowed the initial pace. The corn crop is 79 percent emerged while soybeans are 33 percent emerged. The average height of corn at this juncture is 6 inches. Tobacco setting was able to make up some ground as very little progress was reported last week.

Damage from the freeze event three weeks ago has been evaluated in full at this point. Corn and soybean condition are both rated mostly good currently and the crops appear to have been spared from widespread damage. Winter wheat is 96 percent headed and the crop is in mostly good condition. Freeze damage to wheat was rated as 3 percent severe, 12 percent moderate, 40 percent light, and 45 percent with no damage. Fruit crops proved vulnerable to the freeze and some loss is expected. Apple freeze damage was reported as 8 percent severe, 24 percent moderate, 29 percent light, and 39 percent with no damage. Freeze damage to peaches was reported as 16 percent severe, 29 percent moderate, 10 percent light, and 45 percent with no damage. Alfalfa freeze damage was measured as 5 percent severe, 14 percent moderate, 36 percent light, and 45 percent with no damage. The current hay supply is 8 percent very short, 26 percent short, 62 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus. Strawberry condition was rated as mostly good. Pasture condition is mostly good, despite wet conditions.

SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 05/24/20

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	-	4	60	36
Subsoil	-	3	65	32

- Represents zero.

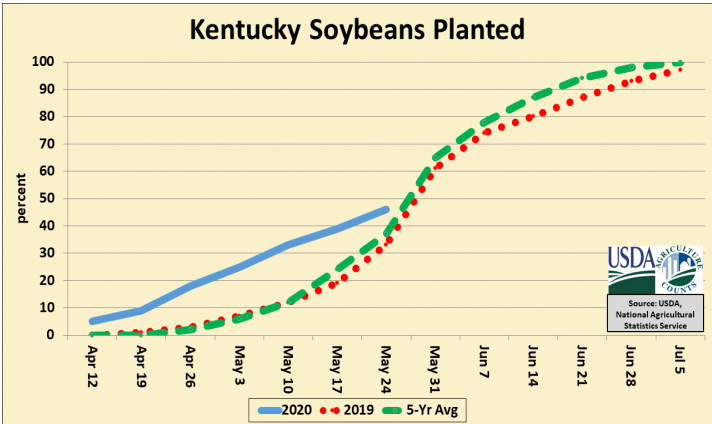
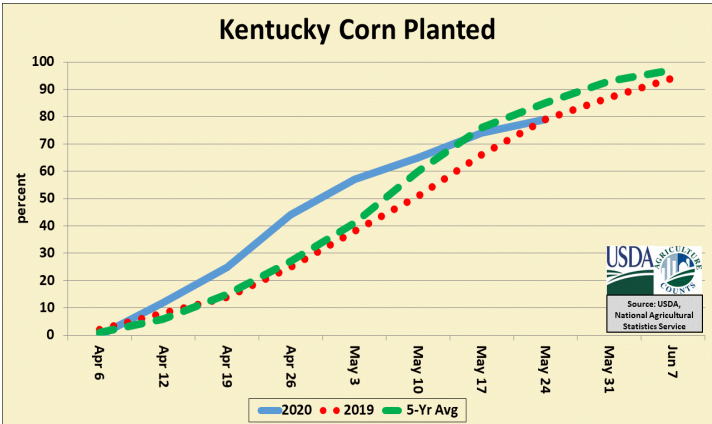


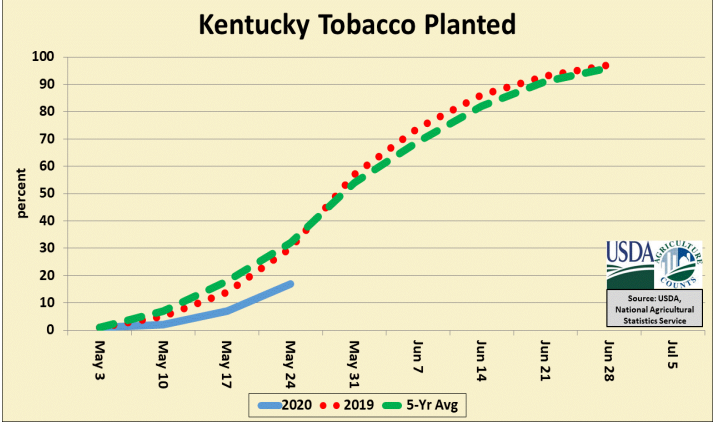
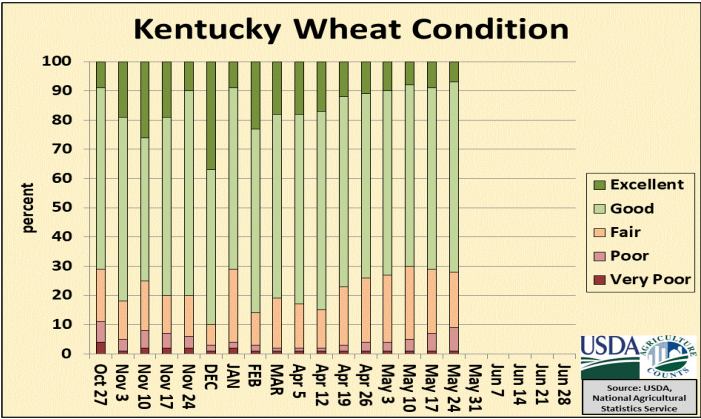
CROP PROGRESS for week ending 05/24/20

Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Corn Planted	79	74	79	85
Corn Emerged	64	56	61	66
Soybeans Planted	46	39	33	37
Soybeans Emerged	33	24	14	18
Tobacco Set	17	7	30	32
Winter Wheat Headed	96	89	93	95

CROP CONDITIONS for week ending 05/24/20

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Corn	1	3	13	72	11
Hay	4	7	22	61	6
Livestock	1	4	16	69	10
Pasture	2	7	19	60	12
Strawberries	2	8	15	70	5
Wheat	1	8	19	65	7





**Kentucky Climate Summary**  
**For the Period May 18, 2019 to May 24, 2020**

Near Normal Temperatures and Above Normal Rainfall:

Depending on the exact location across Kentucky, this period was either exceptionally wet or relatively dry. The focus over the first half of the week was a disturbance aloft that didn’t move much, keeping cloudy and wet weather entrenched over the state between Monday and Thursday. Rainfall was most extreme across the eastern half of the state on Monday and Tuesday, especially-so just east of a line from Pulaski, Fayette, and Boone Counties. When it was all said and done, this region saw 2 to 5+ inches of rainfall with a sharp cutoff to the west. The extreme rainfall within a very short period of time led to saturated soils and in turn, moderate/major flooding for a large portion of the Bluegrass Region and Eastern Kentucky. The rest of the week featured daily bouts of rainfall, but only isolated to scattered in coverage. Overall, the state averaged 2.16 inches for the week, but there was quite the range across the state. While the Bluegrass Region and Eastern Kentucky averaged 3.90 and 3.16 inches respectively, Western Kentucky only averaged 0.69 inches. Looking at temperatures, the period started with cooler weather in place, but summer heat returned over the weekend. Highs jumped into the mid to upper 80s, some touching 90. Dew points in the middle 60s to low 70s gave a much muggier feel to the air.

Temperatures for the period averaged 66 degrees across the state which was near normal and 4 degrees warmer than the previous period. High temperatures averaged from 75 in the West to 73 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from 5 degrees cooler than normal in the West to 5 degrees cooler than normal in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 60 degrees in the West to 57 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from 3 degrees warmer than normal in the West to 5 degrees warmer than normal in the East. The extreme high temperature for the period was 90 degrees at LOUISVILLE APT and the extreme low was 48 degrees at SHEPHERDSVILLE 6SE.

Precipitation (liq. equ.) for the period totaled 2.16 inches statewide which was 1.05inches above normal and 194% of normal. Precipitation totals by climate division, West0.69 inches, Central 0.88 inches, Bluegrass 3.90 inches and East 3.16 inches, which was -0.41, -0.28, 2.83 and 2.04 inches respectively from normal. By station, precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.23 inches at CARBONDALE ASOS to a high of 6.48 inches at ALEXANDRIA 5NW.

**KENTUCKY TEMPERATURES AND RAIN FALL**  
**FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, 05/24/20 4 p.m.**

Weather Station	Precipitation		Deviation  From Norm Since Jan 1	Temperatures					Air Temp. Dev. From Normal
	Last Week	Since Jan 1		Soil		Air		Wkly. Avg.	
				4 In. Grass					
				High	Low	High	Low		
	(Inches)	(Inches)	(Inches)	(Degrees Fahrenheit)	(Degrees Fahrenheit)	(Degrees Fahrenheit)	(Degrees Fahrenheit)	(Degrees Fahrenheit)	(Degrees Fahrenheit)
Bardstown	0.99	23.55	5.74	70	60	83	50	66	-2
Berea	5.06	29.35	11.32	--	--	84	53	66	-1
Bowling Green	0.98	25.85	4.66	70	61	88	56	69	1
Bristol	1.55	26.95	10.26	--	--	86	49	64	-3
Buckhorn Lake	3.75	30.48	12.08	--	--	85	51	64	-3
Cape Girardeau	0.57	23.82	4.12	--	--	87	54	68	-2
Campbellsville	0.37	28.93	7.64	--	--	86	51	66	-2
Covington	3.71	21.74	5.16	--	--	87	51	65	-2
Dix Dam	3.22	24.84	6.23	--	--	82	51	66	-1
Evansville	1.64	25.65	7.46	--	--	87	54	67	-3
Glasgow	2.06	29.32	7.74	70	60	85	54	66	-2
Grayson	2.64	21.85	5.76	--	--	87	50	65	-2
Hardinsburg	0.35	22.47	2.42	--	--	86	52	66	-2
Henderson	0.47	21.21	2.55	--	--	88	53	67	-3
Huntington	2.79	23.26	7.25	--	--	88	49	65	-2
Jackson	2.38	29.36	10.56	--	--	86	51	67	0
Lexington	3.40	22.62	4.81	71	61	83	52	65	-2
London	4.57	36.40	17.68	--	--	83	52	66	-1
Louisville	2.17	21.15	2.52	--	--	90	55	69	1
Mayfield	0.44	25.12	2.41	--	--	88	56	69	-1
Nashville	0.50	24.85	4.44	--	--	88	54	70	2
Nolin Lake	0.29	33.56	12.77	--	--	85	54	67	-1
Paducah	0.46	26.73	5.81	79	63	88	58	70	0
Princeton	0.91	25.01	3.20	80	61	87	55	67	-3
Quicksand	3.30	28.70	9.90	--	--	88	51	66	-1
Somerset	2.87	35.19	14.82	--	--	84	52	66	-1
Spindletop	3.95	23.00	5.19	72	62	83	53	65	-2
Williamstown	2.53	20.47	2.90	--	--	84	52	64	-3

The above information is provided by Tom Priddy, Kentucky Extension Agricultural Meteorologist, University of Kentucky Agr'l Weather Center (859) 218-4364.